

House Select Committee on Assassinations: News, Status, and Comments

Parts 1 to 4 — different authors

"Definite coverup practices are being effectuated by the Chief Counsel of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, Mr. Robert Blakey, which are designed to withhold the truth from the American people."

Part 1

[COMMITTEE PRINT] [Page I]

REPORT
of the
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
NINETY-FIFTH CONGRESS
Second Session

To accompany submission of the Select Committee's
proposed 1978 budget to the Committee on House
Administration

January 25, 1978

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[Page II]

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[Page III]

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

U.S. House of Representatives,
Select Committee on Assassinations,
Washington, D.C., January 25, 1978.

Hon. Frank Thompson, Jr.,
Chairman, Committee on House Administration
U.S. Capitol, Room H326
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, I am enclosing this report to supplement the select committee's funding request of January 20, 1978. This report is intended to enable your committee to have a ready reference guide concerning the select committee's organization and structure, personnel, relationships with the executive agencies and departments, and insofar as is possible to disclose at the current time, some general areas of investigation that the committee is pursuing. It also contains a comparative analysis of the actual expenditures of the select committee during 1977 with the 1977 budget that had been approved by your committee and the House of Representatives.

The select committee hopes this report will assist you in the evaluation and consideration of its proposed budget for 1978.

Sincerely,

Louis Stokes, Chairman

Enclosure : Report

[Page V]

CONTENTS

	Page
I. Legislative history and mandate	1
II. Organization of the staff	1
III. Conduct of committee business	4
A. Relationships with executive agencies and departments	4
B. Travel and interviews by the staff	4
C. Hearing and meeting schedules . . .	5
D. Security considerations	6
E. Special projects and consultants	7
1. Medical evidence	8

	Page
2. Ballistics	8
3. Wound ballistics	9
4. Photographs and computers	9
5. Acoustics	9
6. Handwriting	10
IV. Comparison of 1977 budget with estimated expenditures for 1977	10
V. Conclusion	10

..... (see original report)

[Portions of Pages 6 and 7]

D. Security Considerations

The security of information obtained during the investigation has been of paramount concern to the select committee. It is important that information be kept secure for at least four reasons. First, a breach in security could jeopardize leads the committee is pursuing by giving subjects of the investigation premature notice of the focus of the committee's inquiry and an opportunity to tailor testimony or destroy evidence. Second, the committee has a responsibility to isolate testimony obtained under a grant of immunity. The immunity grant prevents only the use of a witness' immunized testimony and leads derived from that testimony from being used against that witness in a subsequent prosecution. A subsequent prosecution may still be brought against a witness provided the prosecutor does not present the immunized testimony or evidence derived from the immunized testimony of the witness before the committee. Complete isolation of immunized testimony is vital to enable the Government to meet its burden of demonstrating that evidence presented in a criminal case is not derived from immunized testimony. Guaranteeing the security of witness' testimony therefore preserves the Justice Department's option to prosecute committee witnesses upon whom the committee has conferred immunity. Third, security breaches could undermine the committee's ongoing relationship with executive agencies which furnish information to the committee only upon the condition that information be kept secure. Fourth, any leak of information not yet corroborated could unfairly defame or degrade innocent persons.

As a result, the committee has adopted stringent security procedures. All staff members on the committee have received or are in the process of receiving "top secret" security clearance. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, as an accommodation to the committee, conducts the background investigations for these security clearances. The Central Intelligence Agency then reviews the background investigations done by the FBI. After consultation with the FBI and CIA, the full committee makes the determination regarding an individual's security clearance.

The committee's offices have a police officer on duty 24 hours a day. All material is stored in secure safes or containers. Appropriate security protection devices surround the committee's offices.

..... (see original report)

Part 2

From Edmund C. Berkeley
Editor, *People and the PURSUIT of Truth*

To me it is absolutely extraordinary that the Central Intelligence Agency and the Federal Bureau

of Investigation are being employed by the committee to screen and approve for membership in the staff persons who are otherwise eligible for inclusion in the staff.

To me, this is like going into a battle, allowing one's enemies first to tie both one's hands behind one's back.

The CIA and the FBI are buried to the neck in the implications of coverup of the assassinations. For the House Select Committee to allow and approve this screening procedure shouts to high heaven.

Part 3

PHYSICAL ANALYSIS OF BULLET FRAGMENTS: Proof of Conspiracies Being Withheld by Select Committee

From Ted Gandolfo
Chairman, Assassination Information Committee
1214 First Ave.
New York, NY 10021

(Based on a letter sent to:
Representative Yvonne Burke
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515, dated Feb. 22, 1978)

As a result of two recent phone conversations with you, you are aware, I believe, of what many long-time researchers, myself included, feel regarding what we allege are definite coverup practices.

These practices, we believe, are being effectuated by the Chief Counsel of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, Mr. Robert Blakey, regarding the investigations by that committee. These practices are, we assert, designed to withhold the truth from the American people, truth which has now been obtained by the researchers and investigators of the Select Committee to Investigate Assassinations regarding ballistic evidence. This evidence proves beyond question that conspiracies were involved in the murders of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and President John F. Kennedy.

Spectrographic analyses and neutron activation analyses have been made of (1) the bullet slug removed from Dr. King and (2) the bullet fragments relating to the assassination of President Kennedy. These tests were performed for the Select Committee and were conducted under their direction.

The test results prove conclusively that both Dr. King and President Kennedy were assassinated by conspiracies.

In spite of this fact, page 8 of the report of the Select Committee on Assassinations dated January 25, 1978, states, "In both the Kennedy and King investigations, a careful analysis of all the ballistic evidence available is being conducted" Yet, in point of fact, these tests have already been conducted and the important results which demonstrate conspiracy are being withheld.

(please turn to page 8)